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### EMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

MAY 1948.

#### Employment Level Still Rising.

During the month of May, 1948, there was a rise of 8,900 (0.38 per cent) in the number of persons in employment. Males in employment (1,725,600) were 8,300 more, and females (641,800) were 600 more than at the end of April. (Employees in rural industry and females in private domestic service are excluded from these figures).

### GOVERNMENT EMPLOYMENT

During May the number of administrative employees of Government departments decreased by 500 to a total of 115,800. The number of employees in Government service undertakings (such as railways, postal and education services, hospitals, and public works) increased by 3,700 to a total of 472,000.

#### Changes in Industrial Groups

Industrial groups in which employment increased during May were Building and Construction (+ 2,200), Factories (+ 1,900), Transport (+ 1,700), Retail Trade (+ 1,400), Personal Service, Health, Public Authority Activity, Other Manufacturing, Property and Finance, and Mining, other than Coal. Decreases were recorded in Coal Mining, Wholesale Trade, Education, and Entertainment, Sport, etc. Other groups remained unchanged.

#### Seasonal Change in Factory Employment

The end of the fruit preserving season saw a fall of 600 males and 1,300 females in the food and drink industry in Victoria, while the seasonal activity in meat preserving was largely responsible for increases in this industry in Queensland (1,200 males) and Western Australia. Most other factory classes showed slight increases, the highest individual rises being 100 males and 200 females in Victorian clothing factories. Employment levels were unchanged in rubber goods, musical instruments, and miscellaneous manufactures and in heat, light, and power works.

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